

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please rewrite claim 13 as follows:

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--13. (Amended) A portable information terminal having an interface for connection to a master unit having a function to execute a program, comprising:

illegal copying prevention means for periodically determining whether legitimate information has been downloaded from the master unit or not, and if legitimate information has not been downloaded, making ineffective at least control inputs entered into the terminal,

said illegal copying prevention means comprising:

identification determining means for determining whether a medium identification code which has been downloaded from the master unit is a predetermined medium identification code or not, said medium identification code identifying a medium containing at least one program executable in said portable information terminal.--

Please rewrite claim 16 as follows:

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--16. (Amended) A portable information terminal according to claim 15, wherein said download monitoring means comprises:

preprocessing means for storing the present year, month, and date in a first memory area;

download detecting means for detecting whether data has been downloaded or not; and

registering means for setting a flag indicative of the download if the downloaded medium identification code is the predetermined medium identification code and registering the present year, month, and date in a second memory area.--

[Please rewrite claim 17 as follows:]

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P --17. (Amended) A portable information terminal according to claim 16, wherein said periodic download determining means comprises:

effective/ineffective determining means for determining whether the present year, month, and date stored in the first and second memory areas are effective or ineffective, and making at least control inputs ineffective if the stored present year, month, and date of ineffective;

elapsed time determining means for determining whether a predetermined period has elapsed or not on the basis of the present year, month, and date stored in the first and second memory areas; and

flag determining means for determining whether the flag has been set or not if the predetermined period has elapsed, making at least control inputs ineffective if the flag has not been set, and resetting the flag if the flag has been set.—

Please rewrite claim 30 as follows:

3 Sub B37-30. (Amended) An entertainment/system comprising:

an entertainment apparatus having a function to execute a program; and

a portable information terminal detachably connected to said entertainment apparatus and having an interface for being electrically connected to said entertainment apparatus;
said portable information terminal comprising:

illegal copying prevention means for periodically determining whether legitimate information has been downloaded from said entertainment apparatus or not, and if legitimate information has not been downloaded, making ineffective at least control inputs entered into said portable information terminal,

said illegal copying prevention means comprising:

identification determining means for determining whether a medium identification code which has been downloaded from said entertainment apparatus is a predetermined medium identification code or not, said medium identification code identifying a medium containing at least one program executable in said portable information terminal.--

Please rewrite claim 33 as follows:

Sub B47 --33. (Amended) An entertainment system according to claim 32, wherein said download monitoring means comprises:

preprocessing means for storing the present year, month, and date in a first memory area;
download detecting means for detecting whether data has been downloaded or not;

registering means for setting a flag indicative of the download if the downloaded medium identification code is the predetermined medium identification code and registering the present year, month, and date in the second memory area.--

[Please rewrite claim 34 as follows:]

--34. (Amended) An entertainment system according to claim 33, wherein said periodic download determining means comprises:

effective/ineffective determining means for determining whether the present year, month, and date stored in the first and second memory areas are effective or ineffective, and making at least control inputs ineffective if the stored present year, month, and date are ineffective;

elapsed time determining means for determining whether a predetermined period has elapsed or not on the basis of the present year, month, and date stored in the first and second memory areas; and

flag determining means for determining whether the flag has been set or not if the predetermined period has elapsed, making at least control inputs ineffective if the flag has not been set, and resetting the flag if the flag has been set.--

Please rewrite claim 42 as follows:

Sub B57 --42. (Amended) A recording medium storing a program which can be executed by a portable information terminal having an interface for connection to a master unit which has a function to execute the program, said program comprising the steps of:

periodically determining whether legitimate information has been downloaded from the master unit or not;

if legitimate information has not been downloaded, making ineffective at least control inputs entered into the portable information terminal; and

determining whether a medium identification code which has been downloaded from the master unit is a predetermined medium identification code or not, said medium identification code identifying a medium containing at least one program executable in said portable information terminal.--

Please rewrite claim 45 as follows:

Sub B67 --45. (Amended) A recording medium according to claim 44, wherein said program further comprises the steps of:

storing the present year, month, and date in a first memory area;

detecting whether data has been downloaded or not; and

setting a flag indicative of the download if the downloaded medium identification code is the predetermined medium identification code and registering the present year, month, and date in a second memory area.

[Please rewrite claim 46 as follows:]

--46. (Amended) A recording medium according to claim 45, wherein said program further comprises the steps of:

26 determining whether the present year, month, and date stored in the first and second memory areas are effective or ineffective, and making at least control input ineffective if the stored present year, month, and date are ineffective;

determining whether a predetermined period has elapsed or not on the basis of the present year, month, and date stored in the first and second memory areas; and

determining whether the flag has been set or not if the predetermined period has elapsed, making at least control inputs ineffective if the flag has not been set, and resetting the flag if the flag has been set.--

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in light of the amendments and remarks herein.